

January 14, 2014

The Honorable Michael McCaul
The Honorable Patrick Meehan
The Honorable Bennie Thompson
The Honorable Yvette Clarke

House Committee on Homeland Security
H2-176 Ford House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20514

Dear Representatives:

On behalf of the Professional Services Council (PSC), I write to you in support of the "National Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure Protection Act of 2013," H.R. 3696 that you introduced and is to be considered in the Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection and Security Technologies Subcommittee shortly. PSC is the voice of the government professional and technical services industry, representing over 370 companies, and hundreds of thousands of employees in all 50 states, that provide federal agencies with services of all types.

PSC recognizes the cybersecurity threats faced by federal agencies, the private sector—including federal contractors—and our nation's infrastructure owners and operators. As such, PSC is supportive of appropriate legislative and administrative initiatives to enhance cybersecurity information sharing, protections, and liability assessments. If enacted, your bill would enable important, initial strides in improving the ability of the government and private sector to work collaboratively to address and respond to cyber threats.

Specifically, PSC supports provisions in the bill that broaden the "Support Anti-Terrorism By Fostering Effective Technologies Act of 2002" (SAFETY Act, Subtitle G of P.L. 107-296) to include important coverage for providers of approved cybersecurity technologies that defend against cyber incidents. In addition, we support section 108(d) of the bill that requires DHS to assess the effectiveness of DHS' existing authorities for acquiring cybersecurity technologies to ensure that such processes and authorities are capable of meeting the department's cybersecurity missions.

PSC also supports the establishment of formal and meaningful information sharing procedures between DHS and private sector entities. Ideally, such formal arrangements would include liability protections for participating private entities. While your bill, in its current form, omits language establishing formal information sharing procedures and liability protections, we are hopeful that future legislation will address those areas and we hope to continue to work with you and your staffs on those issues.

Thank you for your leadership on the critical issue of cybersecurity. If you have any questions, please contact Alan Chvotkin, PSC Executive Vice President and Counsel, or Roger Jordan, PSV Vice President of Government Relations.

Sincerely,



Stan Soloway
President & CEO